(f) if not, which are the States which do not have such committees?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Conclusions of the Conference and agencies identified for their implementation are given in the statement attached. [*See* Appendix CXLI, Annexure No. 51].

(c) and (d) The minutes of the Conference were sent to the concerned State Governments and U.T. Adminisrations for taking ncessary action. Action on the recommendations are followed up with the concerned authorities on a continuous ba-

(e) and (f) The conclusions did not contain any recommendation for constitution of any 'High Powered 15-Point Programme Implementation Committees' by State Governments. However, Quarterly review meetings at Chief Minister's level and also setting up of Minorities Grievances Committee were recommended and some State Governments have initiated the process and others have been reminded to do so.

Rise in price of escsential commodities

1214. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a study conducted by the World Bank prices of essential commodities are registering a sharp rise; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if so the steps Government propose to take to check the rise in prices of essential commodities?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) Government is not aware of any specific study conducted by the World Bank on the prices of essential commodities. However, during the last three months ending 14-2-87, prices of some commodities have increased, some have decreased and some have remained steady.

(b) The main thrust of Government policy is to increase the production of various essential commodities, particularly those which are in short supply. Several essential commodities like edible oils, pulses, kerosene, etc. are imported to augment domestic availability. Export of several essential commodities is either banned or regulated. The Public Distribution System through which essential commodities like foodgrains, sugar, edible oils, etc. are distributed at reasonable prices to the common people, is being strengthened and expanded. Foodgrains at cheaper rates are distributed in tribal areas and under special schemes like National Rural Employment Programme and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme. State Governments/UTs. have been requested from time to time to keep a continuous vigil on the prices and availability of essential commodities and to take strict action against those who indulge in malpractices by enforcing the various provisions of Essential Commodities Act and similar legislations.

राजघाट बांध

1215. **डा. गोविन्द दास रिछारिया** : क्या जल संसाधन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राजघाट बांध के संबंध में बेतवा नदी बोर्ड की कार्यकारी समिति द्वारा गठित "विशेष समिति" द्वारा मैसर्स एन.पी.सी.सी. से विचार-विमर्श किये जाने के पश्चात् कार्य को समय पर पूरा करने के लिए कोई संशोधित कार्यक्रम बनाया गया है ; यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है तथा एन.पी.सी.सी. को और कितना समय दिये जाने का प्रस्ताव है और संशोधित कार्यक्रम के अनुसार इस काम के कब तक शुरू होने की संभावना है ; और